

United Nations

# Centre against *Apartheid*

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## Notes and Documents

16/90

September 1990

POLICIES OF APARTHEID OF THE GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH AFRICA  
Resolution adopted by the United Nations General Assembly  
on 17 September 1990

[Note: This issue contains the text of resolution 44/244 adopted by consensus by the United Nations General Assembly on 17 September 1990, at the conclusion of the resumed forty-fourth session.]

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Acknowledgement, together with a copy of the publication containing the reprint, would be appreciated.

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The General Assembly,

Recalling the Declaration on Apartheid and its Destructive Consequences in Southern Africa, 1/ adopted by consensus on 14 December 1989, at the sixteenth special session of the General Assembly,

Bearing in mind that the aforementioned Declaration calls upon the South African régime, inter alia, to undertake certain measures in order to create a climate suitable for negotiations in South Africa,

Recalling that the Declaration called upon the international community not to relax existing measures aimed at encouraging the South African régime to eradicate apartheid until there is clear evidence of profound and irreversible changes, bearing in mind the objectives of the Declaration,

Noting that Members of the United Nations and the international community have generally adhered to the Programme of action contained in the Declaration and expressing its concern over any departures that have occurred from the international consensus reflected in the Declaration,

Taking careful note of the report of the Secretary-General on the progress made in the implementation of the aforementioned Declaration 2/ and welcoming his contributions,

Noting the report of the Monitoring Group of the Ad Hoc Committee on Southern Africa of the Organization of African Unity, 3/

Noting also other statements and reports from Member States and regional groups on this issue,

Noting further that while some significant measures in the right direction have been undertaken by the South African régime, such as the unbanning of the African National Congress of South Africa (ANC), the Pan Africanist Congress of Azania, and other political organizations and the release of some political prisoners, including Nelson Mandela, and the régime's declared commitment to abolish the apartheid system, continued efforts are needed to establish a climate fully conducive to negotiations and free political activity,

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1/ Resolution S-16/1, annex.

2/ A/44/960 and Add.1-3.

3/ A/44/963.

Welcoming the ongoing talks between ANC and the South African régime aimed at eliminating obstacles to the commencement of negotiations towards a peaceful settlement in South Africa, and the results achieved thus far as set out in the Groote Schuur Minute 4/ and the Pretoria Minute of the meeting held on 6 August 1990,

Gravely concerned with the escalating violence in South Africa resulting largely from continued existence of the apartheid policies, practices and structures, and actions of those opposed to the democratic transformation of South Africa,

1. Reaffirms the provisions of the Declaration on Apartheid and its Destructive Consequences in Southern Africa and the need for their full and immediate implementation;
2. Determines that further steps need to be undertaken by the South African régime to implement the profound and irreversible changes called for in the Declaration;
3. Calls upon all Governments and intergovernmental organizations to adhere strictly to the Programme of action contained in the Declaration 5/ by maintaining existing measures aimed at encouraging the South African régime to eradicate apartheid until there is clear evidence of profound and irreversible changes, bearing in mind the objectives of the Declaration;
4. Further calls upon the South African régime to proceed without delay to establish a climate fully conducive to negotiations by taking all the steps stipulated in the Declaration in particular, to implement its commitment to repeal all legislation, such as the Internal Security Act, designed to circumscribe political activity;
5. Calls for an immediate end to violence and urges the South African authorities to take urgent action to end it, specifically by dismantling the apartheid structures as well as ensuring effective and impartial action by the security forces and calls upon all parties concerned to contribute to the establishment of a climate free of violence;
6. Welcomes the fact that ANC and the South African régime have engaged in talks which have thus far resulted in the Groote Schuur and the Pretoria meetings aimed at facilitating the commencement of substantive negotiations;
7. Commends ANC for having taken the initiative in calling for talks with the South African régime and for its landmark decision to suspend the armed struggle;

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4/ A/45/268, annex.

5/ Resolution S-16/1, annex, sect. C.

8. Urges the international community and the Secretary-General, through the relevant United Nations agencies, to provide all possible assistance to facilitate the re-establishment of previously banned political organizations in South Africa as well as the reintegration of released political prisoners;

9. Requests the Secretary-General, through the relevant United Nations agencies, to provide all necessary assistance for the voluntary repatriation of the South African refugees and political exiles in safety and dignity, and requests the South African régime, the liberation movements and other organizations in South Africa and the international community to extend their full support to this endeavour;

10. Requests the Secretary-General to remain actively seized of developments in South Africa, and submit by 30 June 1991 to the forty-fifth session of the General Assembly a report on further progress in the implementation of the Declaration.

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Courtesy of Centre against Apartheid